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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Agenda item 61
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 21 May 1998 from the Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the extract on the question of Cyprus from the final communiqué of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-aligned Movement, which took place in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 18 to 20 May 1998.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotirios ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



ANNEX

Extract on Cyprus from the final communiqué issued and approved
unanimously by the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating
Bureau of the Non-aligned Movement, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia,
18-20 May 1998

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed all previous positions and declarations of the Non-aligned Movement on the question of Cyprus and expressed deep concern and disappointment over the fact that no progress had been achieved in the search for a just and viable solution owing to Turkish intransigence and the attempt of the Turkish side to introduce preconditions to the two rounds of direct negotiations, held in July and August 1997, between the President of Cyprus and the Turkish Cypriot leader, at the initiative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation reiterated their support for the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, and their solidarity with the people and the Government of Cyprus. They called once again for the withdrawal of all occupation forces and settlers, the return of refugees to their homes in conditions of safety, the restoration of and respect for the human rights of all Cypriots and the accounting for all missing persons.

While reiterating their positions that the present status quo in Cyprus, created and maintained by the use of force, is unacceptable, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation underlined the importance and urgency of the effective implementation of all United Nations resolutions, in particular Security Council resolutions 365 (1974) of 13 December 1974, 541 (1983) of 18 November 1983, 550 (1984) of 11 May 1984 and 939 (1994) of 29 July 1994, and to that end for the Council to take resolute action and appropriate measures including the holding of an international conference and the demilitarization of Cyprus, as repeatedly proposed by the President of Cyprus. They expressed grave concern about recent continuous Turkish threats of use of force against Cyprus and integration of the occupied territory by Turkey and deplored threats by the Turkish side that it will not attend any new round of talks unless the purported state in the occupied territory is recognized. They condemn the declared attempts of the Turkish side to change the basis of the intercommunal dialogue under the mandate of the Secretary-General. They consider such demands to be contrary to the relevant United Nations resolutions, the non-aligned declarations and the principles of international law and call for their withdrawal.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation expressed their concern at the continuing lack of political will on the part of the Turkish side, as confirmed by the report of the Secretary-General of 30 May 1994 (S/1994/629), reaffirmed their support for the Secretary-General's efforts towards a just, comprehensive and workable solution, as provided in paragraph 2 of Security Council resolution 939 (1994), and decided to request the contact group of non-aligned countries to remain seized of the situation and actively support such efforts.



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LETTER DATED 27 MAY 1998 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to resolution 1161 (1998) of 9 April 1998, by which the Security Council requested me to reactivate the International Commission of Inquiry, with the following mandate:

(a) To collect information and investigate reports relating to the sale, supply and shipment of arms and related matériel to former Rwandan government forces and militias in the Great Lakes region of central Africa, in violation of Security Council resolutions 918 (1994) of 17 May 1994, 997 (1995) of 9 June 1995 and 1011 (1995) of 16 August 1995;

(b) To identify parties aiding and abetting the illegal sale to or acquisition of arms by former Rwandan government forces and militias, contrary to the resolutions referred to above;

(c) To make recommendations relating to the illegal flow of arms in the Great Lakes region.

By paragraph 7 of that resolution, the Security Council recommended that the Commission resume its work as soon as possible and requested me to report to the Council on the reactivation of the Commission. The present letter is submitted pursuant to that request.

Following the adoption of resolution 1161 (1998), I requested Mr. Mahmoud Kassem (Egypt), who had served as Chairman of the International Commission of Inquiry in 1995 and 1996, to resume his functions in that capacity. I also requested the Governments of Pakistan, Switzerland and the United States of America to consider making available the services of officials to serve as members of the Commission.

As a result, I am pleased to report that the composition of the Commission is as follows:

Mr. Mahmoud Kassem (Egypt) (Chairman)
Brigadier-General Mujahid Alam (Pakistan)
Mr. Gilbert Barthe (Switzerland)
Mr. Mel Holt (United States of America)



The Commission will be assisted by a small staff.

Between 4 and 8 May 1998, the Chairman and members of the Commission convened at United Nations Headquarters for a series of briefings and consultations with the representatives of interested Member States, senior Secretariat officials and others in preparation for the resumption of their investigations. On 13 May 1998, the Commission re-established its base at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, where it has resumed its contacts in Kenya and with Governments of the countries of the Great Lakes region and others.

In accordance with resolution 1161 (1998), the activities of the Commission will be financed from the United Nations Trust Fund for Rwanda. As of 15 May 1998, the Secretariat had received donations totalling approximately \$140,000 for the use of the Commission, (\$100,000 from the Government of Belgium and \$40,000 from the Government of Japan). Pledges of further contributions were made at the 3870th meeting of the Security Council, on 9 April 1998, when resolution 1161 (1998) was adopted, by the Governments of Belgium, Germany (\$50,000), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (100,000 pounds sterling) and the United States (\$100,000). During the visit of the Commission to New York, the representative of France indicated his Government's intention to contribute to the Trust Fund. The Government of Sweden has also pledged 500,000 Swedish kronor, or approximately \$64,000, to support the work of the Commission.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Governments that have contributed to the Trust Fund and to renew my appeal to others to do so.

In accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 1161 (1998), I will submit an interim report to the Council on the initial conclusions of the Commission within the next three months, to be followed by a final report containing its recommendations in November 1998.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN



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LETTER DATED 28 MAY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On orders from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a letter dated 28 May 1998 addressed to you from Mr. Tarik Aziz, the Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs. This letter relates to statements which were made on 21 May 1998 by the United States Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Thomas Pickering, and fully reveal the current United States policy, which is hostile to Iraq and contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex

Letter dated 28 May 1998 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

On 21 May 1998, the United States Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Thomas Pickering, made, during a joint meeting in which the Foreign Relations Committee and the Committee on Natural Resources of the United States Senate participated, a statement in which he referred to the policy followed by the United States with regard to our country.

This policy and the explicit terms used by Mr. Pickering are aimed at maintaining the embargo imposed on Iraq. The United States, therefore, does not conceal the fact that it is firmly determined to impose hostile policies which, lacking any relation to Security Council resolutions and international law, are attempting to link to the "oil for food" programme objectives that run counter to its temporary nature and humanitarian orientation in order to infringe the sovereignty of Iraq and interfere in its internal affairs.

This openly flaunted policy and the statements to which it has given rise are in flagrant contravention of the purposes and principles of the Charter and constitute a breach of the commitment set forth in Article 25 of the Charter by virtue of which States Members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council in accordance with the Charter.

Furthermore, we wish to draw your attention to the following fact: the statement by Mr. Pickering very clearly demonstrates that the United States policy with regard to Iraq is essentially dictated by the national interests of the United States and does not at all take into account the obligations incumbent on that country under the relevant Security Council resolutions.

This policy, which is the work of a permanent member of the Security Council, must be condemned by all the States Members of the United Nations, particularly the members of the Security Council. It imposes an unfair evaluation of the manner in which Iraq carries out its obligations under the Security Council resolutions and is attempting at all cost to prevent the adoption by the Council of a resolution calling for the lifting of the embargo against Iraq, in accordance with paragraph 22 of resolution 687 (1991), thus jeopardizing the credibility of the Security Council.

In the hope that you will give this problem the interest that is due and will be able to draw attention to its seriousness in accordance with your responsibilities under the Charter, we should like to request you to arrange to have the text of this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tarik AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs



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LETTER DATED 29 MAY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF NEW ZEALAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the letter of 15 May 1998 (A/52/904-S/1998/338) addressed to you from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand, the Right Honourable Don McKinnon, concerning the conduct of nuclear tests by India.

I have been requested by my Government to transmit to you the attached statement of 29 May 1998 from the Prime Minister of New Zealand, the Right Honourable Jenny Shipley, concerning the conduct of nuclear tests by Pakistan.

The Government of New Zealand has called upon the Governments of both India and Pakistan to adhere unconditionally to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty and the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter together with the attached statement issued as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Michael J. POWLES
Permanent Representative



Annex

Press release dated 29 May 1998

PRIME MINISTER CONDEMNS NUCLEAR TESTS BY PAKISTAN

Prime Minister Jenny Shipley today condemned Pakistan's nuclear tests.

"New Zealand denounces these tests unequivocally. We knew that Pakistan was under great provocation from the tests already conducted by India, but this response will only aggravate a tense situation.

"In public statements, and in letters sent recently by me and Don McKinnon to our Pakistan counterparts, we called on Pakistan to exercise restraint. I am therefore deeply disappointed that they have now taken this step.

"New Zealand will be making clear to Pakistan, as we did to India, that these actions are totally unacceptable.

"We will also be consulting other Governments about what steps the international community can take to defuse this potentially dangerous situation.

"New Zealand will once again be strongly supporting all efforts in the United Nations and other multilateral bodies to try to avert a nuclear arms race in South Asia, and to maintain the international norm against nuclear testing", the Prime Minister concluded.
